

REMARKS

Claims 1-12, 14-23, and 25-26 are pending in the applications. Claims 1, 11, and 14 have been amended. Claims 13 and 24 have been canceled.

Claims 5-10, 13, 18-20, 24 and 26 have been allowed. Claims 1-4, 11-12, 14-17, 23 and 25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,850,968 issued to Pfeffer et al. ("Pfeffer"). Applicant respectfully submits that while Pfeffer minimally identifies delaying subsequent mail requests as a means for moderating loads on network mail servers, Pfeffer does not enable its minimal disclosure and thus does not teach the limitations of independent claims 1 and 14 (as examined). However, in order to advance the prosecution of the allowed claims, Applicant has elected to amend independent claims 1 and 14 to recite the additional limitation, "wherein delaying subsequent mail requests is achieved by inserting multiple delays that are inserted at different points in a mail protocol."

In light of the amendments of the claims, Applicant requests reconsideration of the current rejections and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Should any further questions arise concerning this application or in the event the above amendments do not place the application in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests an interview with the examiner prior to any new office action relating to the present Application. Please contact Jon L. Roberts at the number listed below.

The Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, and conversely credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1579.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jon L. Roberts, Ph.D., J.D.
Registration No. 31,293
Elliott D. Light, Esq.
Registration No. 51,948
Roberts Mardula & Wertheim, LLC
11800 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 1000
Reston, VA 20191
703-391-2900